

REMARKS

Previously withdrawn claims 12-21, 23, 24 and 30-39 are canceled. Claims 8-11, 22 and 26-29 remain pending in this application.

In the Final Office Action dated November 20, 2007, the Examiner rejected claims 8-11, 22 and 26-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bunnell (U.S. Patent No. 6,119,122) in view of Sumsion et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,496,865). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Independent Claims 8, 22 and 26

With respect to independent claims 8, 22 and 26, the Examiner asserts that Bunnell teaches a “management service,” which the Examiner equates to the recited “lookup service.” Office Action (November 20, 2007), at 3. The Examiner admits that Bunnell “does not explicitly recite the management service including a service item containing at least a stub or a serialized object for use in accessing the at least one of the services.” Id. However, the Examiner cites Sumsion et al. as allegedly teaching “a system and method for implementing a resource access system utilizing a stub for performing functions related to servicing a client to be given access to a server resource,” and asserts that “[o]ne of ordinary skill in the art . . . would have found it obvious to utilize in combination with the management service provided by Bunnell functioning as a network lookup service a method for servicing a client by performing resource access utilizing a stub.” Id.

Applicants disagree with the Examiner’s characterizations of Bunnell and Sumsion et al. and further disagree with the Examiner’s conclusion that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Bunnell and Sumsion et al. to

arrive at Applicants' invention. Nevertheless, solely in order to advance prosecution of the present application, Applicants propose to amend independent claim 8 to recite:

responsive to a determination that the update to the lookup service corresponds to a selected parameter, providing a notification to a client that requested the notification by including a corresponding parameter in a request.

Applicants also propose to amend independent claim 22 to recite:

monitoring for updates to the lookup service corresponding to notification requests; and

notifying a second client when an update to the lookup service matches at least one parameter of a notification request by the second client.

Finally, Applicants propose to amend independent claim 26 to recite:

storing information reflecting requests from clients to be notified upon the occurrence of events;

. . . [and]

responsive to a determination that the update to the lookup service corresponds to an event for which at least one client requested notification, notifying the at least one client reflected by the stored information.

Support for these amendments is found at least at page 14, lines 1-6, page 19, line 10, through page 20, line 26, and page 22, line 15, though page 24, line 2, of Applicants' original specification.

By contrast, neither Bunnell nor Sumison et al. teach such recitations. Therefore, the rejection of independent claims 8, 22 and 26 as amended is unsupported by Bunnell and Sumsion et al., whether taken alone or in combination. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the amendments to claims 8, 22 and 26 be entered, the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

Dependent Claims 9-11 and 27-29

Claims 9-11 and 27-29 depend from one of independent claims 8 and 26. As explained above with reference to the proposed amendments to claims 8 and 26, the rejection of claims 8 and 26 lacks support in Bunnell and Sumsion et al., whether taken alone or in combination. Therefore, the rejection of claims 9-11 and 27-29 also lacks support in Bunnell and Sumsion et al. for at least the same reasons as those given above with respect to claims 8 and 26. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the amendments to claims 8 and 26 be entered, the rejection of dependent claims 9-11 and 27-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 8-11, 22 and 26-29 in condition for allowance. Applicants submit that the proposed amendments of claims 8, 22 and 26 do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner, since all of the elements and their relationships claimed were either earlier claimed or inherent in the claims as examined. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully point out that the final action by the Examiner presented some new arguments as to the application of the art against Applicants' invention. It is respectfully submitted that the entering of the Amendment would allow the Applicants to reply to the final rejections and place the application in condition for allowance.

Finally, Applicants submit that the entry of the amendment would place the application in better form for appeal, should the Examiner dispute the patentability of the pending claims.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that this claimed invention, as amended, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art references cited against this application. Applicants therefore request the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

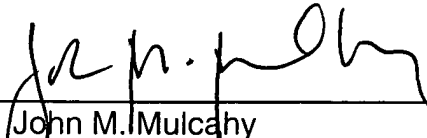
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

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By: _____


John M. Mulcahy
Reg. No. 55,940
(202) 408-4000